



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re United States Patent Application of:**

**Applicant:** SHAH, Tilak M.

**Application No.:** 10/633,238

**Date Filed:** August 1, 2003

**Title:** PRESS-FLAT CENTRIFUGE  
TUBE AND SPECIMEN  
COLLECTION ASSEMBLY  
COMPRISING SAME

**Docket No.:** 4179-126

**Examiner:** Unassigned

**Art Unit:** Unknown

**Customer No.:**

Customer 23448icker

**FIRST CLASS MAIL CERTIFICATE**

I hereby certify that I am mailing the attached documents to the Commissioner for Patents on the date specified, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, and First Class Mailed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.8.

  
Dennis Maxwell

August 29, 2003  
Date of Mailing

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

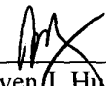
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. One copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

- ☐ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ c. Attached is our check no. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.
- ☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check no. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.
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- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

Respectfully submitted,

  
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FORM PTO-1449		US Dept. of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 4179-126		SERIAL NO. 10/633,238	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT SHAH, Tilak M.			
				FILING DATE August 1, 2003		GROUP	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	3,977,598	08/31/1976	McDonald			04/17/1975
	AB	4,511,349	04/16/1985	Nielsen et al.			02/27/1984
	AC	4,512,202	04/23/1985	Wright et al.			12/27/1982
	AD	4,552,278	11/12/1985	Romanauskas			10/30/1984
	AE	5,859,374	01/12/1999	Mink et al.			07/01/1997
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Journal-Date, Page Number, Etc.)</b>							
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.							

\* All the foreign patents and publications that are not written in English language are accompanied by their respective English abstracts, which constitute concise explanation of relevance of the non-English patents and publications that satisfy the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(i), according to MPEP 609 III A(3).